

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An automatic performance system comprising:
performance pattern storage means for storing a plurality of performance patterns, the performance patterns comprising data representing events corresponding to the production of tones;

pattern sequence storage means for storing pattern sequence data representing a sequence of said performance patterns, the pattern sequence data including identifiers of performance patterns in the sequence, the identifiers having a predefined attribute;

signal processing means for producing tones corresponding to the performance patterns of a pattern sequence;

an operator for use by a user during performance of a pattern sequence to generate events representing the addition of a tone to or deletion of a tone from the pattern sequence at the location in the pattern sequence at which the event is generated;

creation means for creating a new performance pattern in accordance with events generated by the operator and a performance pattern that was performed during occurrence of those events; and

modification means for modifying the pattern sequence data to substitute in the pattern sequence data, an identifier of the new performance pattern for the identifier of the performance pattern from which it was created with the same attribute as the predefined attribute.

2. (Original) The automatic performance system cited in Claim 1, wherein the operator generates an event that represents the addition of a musical tone to the performance pattern.

3. (Original) The automatic performance system cited in Claim 1, wherein the operator generates an event that represents the deletion of a tone from the performance pattern.

4. (Original) The automatic performance system cited in Claim 1, wherein the new performance pattern created by the creation means adds tones and deletes tones in accordance with events generated by the operator and the timing of the occurrence of those events during performance of the performance pattern from which it is created.

5. (Currently Amended) A programmable device for automatically producing tones, the device including a computer readable medium storing programming code for controlling the device to perform processing comprising:

storing a plurality of performance patterns, the performance patterns comprising automatic performance data representing events corresponding to the production of tones;

storing pattern sequence data representing a sequence of said performance patterns, the pattern sequence data including identifiers of performance patterns in the sequence, the identifiers having a predefined attribute;

performing a pattern sequence by generating tones represented in the performance patterns of the pattern sequence data;

receiving user input during the performance of the pattern sequence;

in accordance with the user input, updating at least one of the performance patterns in the sequence data to add tones to or delete tones in accordance with the user input, to create a new performance pattern; and

modifying the pattern sequence data to substitute in the pattern sequence data, an identifier of the new performance pattern for the identifier of the performance pattern from which it was created with the same attribute as the predefined attribute.

6. (Previously Presented) The device claimed in claim 5, wherein the event generated by user input is an event representing the addition of a tone, and

wherein at least one of the performance patterns in the pattern sequence is updated to add the tone represented by the user input at a location during the performance of the pattern sequence at which the user input was received.

7. (Original) The device claimed in claim 6, wherein the user input is produced by the operation of an operator representing a particular tone.

8. (Previously Presented) The device claimed in claim 5, wherein the event generated by user input is an event representing the deletion of a tone, and wherein at least one of the performance patterns in the pattern sequence is updated to add the tone represented by the user input at a location during the performance of the pattern sequence at which the user input was received.

9. (Original) The device claimed in claim 8, wherein the user input is produced by the concurrent operation of an operator representing a particular tone and an operator representing the deletion of a tone.

10. (Cancelled)

11. (Original) The device claimed in claim 5, wherein the tones comprise musical notes.

12. (Original) The device claimed in claim 5, wherein the tones comprise percussive sounds.

13. (Currently Amended) A method in a device for automatically producing tones, comprising:

storing a plurality of performance patterns, the performance patterns comprising automatic performance data representing events corresponding to the production of tones;
storing pattern sequence data representing a sequence of said performance patterns, the pattern sequence data including identifiers of performance patterns in the sequence, the identifiers having a predefined attribute;

performing a pattern sequence by generating tones represented in the performance patterns of the pattern sequence data;

receiving user input during the performance of the pattern sequence;

in accordance with the user input, updating at least one of the performance patterns in the sequence data to add tones to or delete tones in accordance with the user input, to create a new performance pattern; and

modifying the pattern sequence data to substitute in the pattern sequence data, an identifier of the new performance pattern for the identifier of the performance pattern from which it was created with the same attribute as the predefined attribute.

14. (Previously Presented) The method claimed in claim 13, wherein the event generated by user input is an event representing the addition of a tone, and

wherein at least one of the performance patterns in the pattern sequence is updated to add the tone represented by the user input at a location during the performance of the pattern sequence at which the user input was received.

15. (Original) The method claimed in claim 14, wherein the user input is produced by the operation of an operator representing a particular tone.

16. (Previously Presented) The method claimed in claim 13, wherein the event generated by user input is an event representing the deletion of a tone, and

wherein at least one of the performance patterns in the pattern sequence is updated to add the tone represented by the user input at a location during the performance of the pattern sequence at which the user input was received.

17. (Original) The method claimed in claim 16, wherein the user input is produced by the concurrent operation of an operator representing a particular tone and an operator representing the deletion of a tone.

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Original) The method claimed in claim 13, wherein the tones comprise musical notes.

20. (Original) The method claimed in claim 13, wherein the tones comprise percussive sounds.

21. (Currently Amended) A method in a device for automatically producing tones, comprising:

storing a plurality of performance patterns that include musical data representing events corresponding to the production of tones;

storing pattern sequence data representing a sequence of said performance patterns, the pattern sequence data including identifiers of performance patterns in the sequence, the identifiers having a predefined attribute;

performing a pattern sequence by generating tones corresponding to the performance patterns of a sequence represented in the stored pattern sequence data;

receiving user input during the performance of the pattern sequence;

creating a new performance pattern in accordance with the user input and a performance pattern performed during the user input; and

modifying the pattern sequence data to substitute in the pattern sequence data, an identifier of the new performance pattern for the identifier of the performance pattern from which it was created with the same attribute as the predefined attribute.

22. (New) The automatic performance system cited in Claim 1, wherein the predefined attribute comprises at least one of a performance pattern or a style of the sequence of performance patterns.

23. (New) The automatic performance device of Claim 5, wherein the predefined attribute comprises at least one of a performance pattern or a style of the sequence of performance patterns.

24. (New) The automatic performance method of Claim 13, wherein the predefined attribute comprises at least one of a performance pattern or a style of the sequence of performance patterns.

25. (New) The automatic performance method of Claim 21, wherein the predefined attribute comprises at least one of a performance pattern or a style of the sequence of performance patterns.